

Minutes of General Committee Meeting held on 5th December 2007 in the clubhouse.

Present: Chris Howe, Selina Ramm, Philip Cresswell, Jane Middis, Tom Balance, Karen Gosford, Ann Latham, Chris Burrows, Bill Proctor, Robin Kemp, David Newton and Richard Beardsley.

1. Apologies: Received from Mark Smithson, Arron Twamley, Bob Ashby and Sue Prattley.

2. Approval of minutes of the last meeting: Accepted: Proposed JM, Seconded CB.

3. Matters Arising from minutes of last meeting/Action List:

CH will be speaking to Kate Saffin re updating the Child Protection Policy Guidelines information.

4. Sub-committee minutes or reports – matters needing general committee approval:

Development: RK reported that MS is working with the banks to establish available levels of funding – they may want a 60yr lease instead of 30yrs and we ought to provide them with a copy of our existing terms so they can see the terms that we are likely to end up with after the negotiations are complete. If there are any show stoppers in the lease terms regarding finance then they may also be able to offer advice. Robin also indicated that Sport England may have £7-8m they need to allocate before next June.

- **House:** Cooker has a blown ring which needs to be fixed before the Xmas lunch- £190 to fix – RB on standby as the contractor is coming in within a couple of days – some guttering came down in the recent storms and needs sorting out.

- **Sailing:** John Barker wishes to know if the main committee supports the training for under 16's in the Honda Rib Challenge – The answer is Yes, we still support it and are looking into the logistics of how to get it approved by Thames Water (TW). The Youth committee is tasked with discussing what training is required (how long/frequency) so that we can approach TW for approval.

Forthcoming events spaces are quite full – the RYA Team Racing youth championships are Sept/Oct '08 so we need to be mindful of pre-booked large events if we are carrying out work to the club.

The SSC are thinking about a Weds afternoon series next year when the evening races finish.

Collection of Fuel: SR/TB reported that for collection by car in one go there is a maximum of 27 litres and by trailer/van it is 333 litres but it should be in special containers with the appropriate fire extinguisher and training. OSC generally uses 200 litres a week. Insurance wise if members collect it on an occasional basis we should be OK but if it is a regular journey they may not be covered – the Petrol Station needs to approve the containers and the fuel must be driven straight to this site (and placed in appropriate storage).

Action – TB to look at a Trailer/Jerry can solution and come back with costs.

There has been a request for a breakdown of income from training events on a class by class basis. If the data are readily available Philip will let the SSC know the figures.

Action: Philip to provide open meeting income figures if straightforward to calculate.

Open Days – It was agreed that we need an open day, probably in May, as well as the TW organised event in June.

Action - RB and JM to liaise to establish an appropriate day.

Car Parking – are we expecting visitors to pay for car parking in light of TW’s intent of putting in parking meters? Answer- we would probably need to add it into the open meeting fee.

Additional Signage from the Road for the Reservoir – additional directional signage for the Gate 3 entrance would be useful.

Action – CH to ask TW if they can request a Brown Sign from the council.

- **Youth:** The Topper Nationwide next year is one of 3 qualifiers so is likely to have a high turnout – potentially 190-210 boats - OSC has clearance to deal with this number of boats (50 on F1 and 180 on F2) but we need to be mindful of the organisation required.

Sam Jenkins (who is 12 yrs old) is now in the RYA Zone Squad.

Young people have been seen smoking by the windsurfing containers.

Action – RB to organise a clear up of Butt ends.

- **Windsurfing:** Nothing to Report -

- **New Reservoir:** Nothing to Report -

5. Correspondence/Officers reports:

- **Commodore:**

Action – ALL - Year Book Text is required by 5th January 2008.

ODSSA’s last meeting: Nigel Vick stated he was thinking of resigning so that he would leave in April 2008. The ODSSA committee are in discussion with OCC regarding a new Warden.

RB requested that we need a Strategic Overview to see where training sits and what we want to achieve over the next 5 years so we can work more closely with ODSSA.

A note had been received from a member stating that he did not want to have the fees increased by £80 /year to fund elaborate building work. He believes that the club exists to promote sailing not to chase away long standing members by vast hikes in fees.

- **Treasurer:** Balance at c. £201k but payment of new RIBs is due shortly –

Michele Johnson has reported that Sail Training documentation has improved although it is possible some non-members are hiring boats, this has insurance implications.

Action – CH to request Valerie keeps an up to date list of members in the office so CODs can check who is hiring boats.

Proposal for Salary Increase for the Sail Training principle discussed and agreed – all in favour.

- **Sail Training:** Richard Beardsley (RB) submitted comments –

The employer’s liability insurance runs out on 10/12 – PC to check it has been renewed.

Radley have asked for RB and Andy to do a training course for the teachers.

RB is looking at reviewing the charges for training courses by looking at the costs of tuition, fuel, log books etc. to make sure it breaks even (particularly on powerboat courses).

1 Pico has been sold and is being collected on Sunday.

Action – RB to send his notes to Chris Howe so they can be appended to the minutes.

Action – Committee to decide how to create a strategic plan/overview of where training is going for OSC.

- **Bosun:** We still require an area to work on boats at the OSC site

TB proposed the purchase of the following items:

Numbers for safety boats, wooden paddles, security chain, covers for inflatables, GRP repair kit. £2200 +VAT, Secoded RK, All in favour.

It was noted that the Outboard Motor winter service programme is already agreed in the budget.

Launching Trolleys/Trailers;

Action to ask Barnett Marine if we can cancel one of the 2 road trailers/docking arms we ordered (so we can replace that with a standard launching Trolley instead).

Add Dolly Castors to the landing trolleys to replace the jockey wheels.

Tractors for launching; BA to check whether we could get insurance and what the terms would be.

- **Harbourmaster:** 12 requests for berths received – 6 have been accommodated but 6 are in row Z – 2 abandoned boats have been sold. The last 2 rows have been searched and most of the boats are un-stickered and 3 have not re-joined for certain. There is an RS800 in row Z which may not belong to a member.

Action – speak to Derek Buchanen and/or the RS association to find out who owns it.

Note that current boat parking fees are very cheap and we do not charge for trailers (perhaps we should).

- **Health & Safety:** CH has checked a number of H&S policies and downloaded stuff from the HSE website. Is having some difficulty in formulating a policy that protects employees/visitors but allows members to act on their own initiative.

6. Proposal to sell some of the Hobie 405's: CB proposed that we should sell 3 and keep 2 but we may need to amend this in light of direction from ODSSA – proposal held over until April 2008.

7. New members: 6 + 1 Frostbite member.

8. Forthcoming Events: Nothing to Report

9. Any other business:

Fisherman's Lodge is no longer able to be used – NV is awaiting a replacement venue from TW (and will be using OSC facilities in the meantime). The Gate House is being set up as a meeting room.

It was agreed that if NV does resign that we should mark his leaving as he has contributed a significant amount to OSC over the years.

Thanks to everyone who voted for the People's Millions as the Pontoon Project succeeded in getting the funding.

Meeting closed at 10.30pm.

9. Next Meeting 3rd January 2008 at 7.30